

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claim 1 (canceled).

2 (previously presented). A rubber composition comprising:

a rubber component;

sodium 1,6-hexamethylenedithiosulfate dihydrate, in the amount of 1 to 10 parts by weight per 100 parts of the rubber component; and

compound A having two or more ester groups in one molecule, in the amount of 0.5 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the rubber component,

wherein said rubber composition has, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, an intersection of an extrapolation line A of a portion in which the dynamic storage modulus shows an approximately linear change before a rapid decrease at temperatures higher than 100°C and an extrapolation line B of a portion in which the dynamic storage modulus rapidly decreases, at a temperature of 170°C or higher.

Claim 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (canceled).

5 (previously presented). A rubber composition according to claim 2, wherein the compound A is an acrylate or a methacrylate.

6 (previously presented). A rubber composition according to claim 2, wherein the compound A is a polyfunctional ester of a polyhydric alcohol and acrylic acid or methacrylic acid, and wherein the polyhydric alcohol is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of tetramethylolmethane, trimethylolpropane and polymers of these compounds.

7 (original). A rubber composition according to claim 6, wherein the polyhydric alcohol is trimethylolpropane or a dimer of tetramethylolmethane.

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (canceled).

10 (previously presented). A rubber composition comprising:

a rubber component;

sodium 1,6-hexamethylenedithiosulfate dihydrate, in the amount of 1 to 10 parts by weight per 100 parts of the rubber component; and

compound A having two or more ester groups in one molecule, in the amount of 0.5 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the rubber component,

wherein said rubber composition has, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, a difference  $\Delta E'$  between

the maximum value and the minimum value of the dynamic storage modulus at a temperature between 180 and 200°C of 2.5 MPa or less.

11 (previously presented). A rubber composition according to claim 10, wherein the compound A is an acrylate or a methacrylate.

12 (previously presented). A rubber composition according to claim 2, wherein the compound A is a polyfunctional ester of a polyhydric alcohol and acrylic acid or methacrylic acid.

Claims 13-17 (canceled).

18 (previously presented). A pneumatic tire according to claim 19, which is a run-flat tire.

19 (previously presented). A pneumatic tire comprising bead fillers and/or side wall portions reinforced with a rubber reinforcing layer, wherein the rubber reinforcing layer and/or bead fillers comprise a rubber composition comprising sodium 1,6-hexamethylenedi thiosulfate dihydrate in the amount of 1 to 10 parts by weight per 100 parts of the rubber component, and wherein said rubber composition has, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, an intersection of an extrapolation line A of a portion in which the dynamic storage modulus shows an approximately linear change before a rapid decrease at temperatures higher than 100°C and an extrapolation line B of a

portion in which the dynamic storage modulus rapidly decreases, at a temperature of 170°C or higher.

20 (previously presented). A pneumatic tire comprising bead fillers and/or side wall portions reinforced with a rubber reinforcing layer, wherein the rubber reinforcing layer and/or bead fillers comprise a rubber composition comprising a compound A having two or more ester groups in one molecule in the amount of 0.5 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the rubber component, and wherein said rubber composition has, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, an intersection of an extrapolation line A of a portion in which the dynamic storage modulus shows an approximately linear change before a rapid decrease at temperatures higher than 100°C and an extrapolation line B of a portion in which the dynamic storage modulus rapidly decreases, at a temperature of 170°C or higher.

21 (previously presented). A pneumatic tire according to claim 19, wherein the side reinforcing layers and/or bead fillers further comprise a rubber composition comprising a compound A having two or more ester groups in one molecule, in the amount of 0.5 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the rubber component.

22 (previously presented). A pneumatic tire comprising bead fillers and/or side wall portions reinforced with a rubber reinforcing layer, wherein the rubber

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reinforcing layer and/or bead fillers comprise a rubber composition comprising a compound A having two or more ester groups in one molecule in the amount of 0.5 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the rubber component, and wherein the rubber composition has, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, a difference  $\Delta E'$  between the maximum value and the minimum value of the dynamic storage modulus at a temperature between 180 and 200 C of 2.5 MPa or less.

23 (currently amended). A pneumatic tire comprising bead fillers and/or side wall portions reinforced with a rubber reinforcing layer, wherein the rubber reinforcing layer and/or bead fillers comprise a rubber composition comprising sodium 1,6-hexamethylenedithiosulfate dihydrate in the amount of 1 to 10 parts by weight per 100 parts of the rubber component, and wherein the rubber composition has, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, a difference  $\Delta E'$  between the maximum value and the minimum value of the dynamic storage modulus at a temperature between 180 and 200 C of 2.5 MPa or less and ~~according to claim 17~~, wherein the side reinforcing layers and/or bead fillers further comprise a rubber composition comprising a compound A having two or more ester groups in one molecule, in the amount of 0.5 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the rubber component.